**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application Number : 10/552,552 Confirmation No.: *To be assigned*  
Applicant : Marc DE BLOCK  
Filed : October 7, 2005  
Title : METHODS AND MEANS FOR INCREASING THE  
TOLERANCE OF PLANTS TO STRESS CONDITIONS  
TC/Art Unit : *To be assigned*  
Examiner: : *To be assigned*  
Docket No. : 58764.000049  
Customer No. : 21967

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT****MAIL STOP PCT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, and in compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant submits herewith copies of the references listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A (modified) for consideration and to be made of record herein by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in the above-captioned application.

Applicants also submit herewith a copy of the International Preliminary Report on Patentability (Form PCT/IB/373) for International Application No. PCT/EP2004/003995, which was filed on April 9, 2004.

Applicant respectfully points out that the submission of the listed references in this Information Disclosure Statement is not an admission that they are prior art or that they are material to patentability of any claims of the application. Also, the submission of this Information Disclosure Statement is not an indication that a search has been made by Applicants.

For the convenience of the Examiner in considering the cited references, a copy of each of the cited references is enclosed with this communication. In considering the cited references, it may be noted by the Examiner that certain of the references may contain markings, underlinings, and/or other notations. These markings, underlinings, and/or other notations are not to be construed as drawing the Examiner's attention either to selected parts or away from other parts of the cited references. Any such markings were either present on the copies of the cited references obtained by the associated individuals, or were made thereon during the study of the references by the associated individuals.

Consideration of the foregoing plus the prompt return of a copy of the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08A with the Examiner's initials in the left column in accordance with MPEP § 609 is respectfully requested.

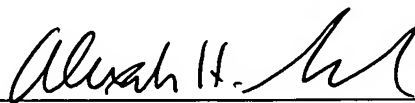
In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), this Information Disclosure Statement is submitted prior to issuance of a first Office Action. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that no fee is required for consideration of this information. However, in the event any fee is deemed necessary, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the undersigned's **Deposit Account No. 50-0206**.

Respectfully submitted,

HUNTON & WILLIAMS LLP

Dated: November 30, 2005

By:



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**10/552,552**

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

*(use as many sheets as necessary)*

**Filing Date**

**October 7, 2005**

**First Named Inventor**

**Marc DE BLOCK**

## Art Unit

*To be assigned*

**Examiner Name**

*To be assigned*

Sheet

**1**

**of**

4

Attorney Docket Number

58764.000049

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*Examiner Initials	Cite No.	DOCUMENT NUMBER Number - Kind Code (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear

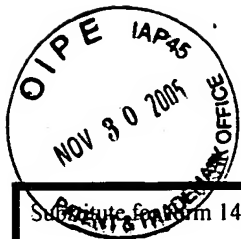
## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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EXAMINER SIGNATURE

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Substitute Form 1449A/PTO

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Examiner Name	To be assigned

Sheet	2	of	4	Attorney Docket Number	58764.000049
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**NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

*Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	TRANSLATION	
			YES	NO
	3.	GenBank accession number AB019366.		
	4.	GenBank accession number AF005043.		
	5.	GenBank accession number AF079556.		
	6.	GenBank accession number AF079557.		
	7.	GenBank accession number AF394690.		
	8.	GenBank accession number BE340510.		
	9.	GenBank accession number NM_003631.		
	10.	GenBank accesssion number NM_031339.		
	11.	GenBank accession number NM_174138.		
	12.	GenBank accession number NT_017696.		
	13.	GenBank accession number U78975.		
	14.	An et al. "Conserved Expression of the Arabidopsis ACT1 and ACT3 Actin Subclass in Organ Primordia and Mature Pollen," The Plant Cell, Vol. 8, pgs.15-30, 1996.		
	15.	De Block et al. "A Simple and Robust in Vitro Assay to Quantify the Vigour of Oilseed Rape Lines and Hybrids," Plant Physiology and Biochemistry, Vol. 40, pgs. 845-852, 2002.		

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Sheet 3 of 4

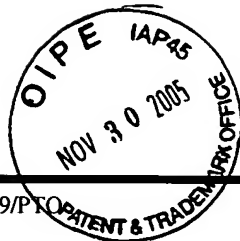
**OTHER DOCUMENTS - NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

*Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	TRANSLATION	
			YES	NO
	16.	Filipovic et al. "Inhibition of PARP Prevents Oxidant-Induced Necrosis but not Apoptosis in LLC-PK <sub>1</sub> Cells," Role of PARP in H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> -Induced Cell Death, pgs. F428-F436, 1999.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	17.	Harpster et al. "Relative Strengths of the 35S Califlower Mosaic Virus, 1', 2', and Nopaline Synthase Promoters in Transformed Tobacco Sugarbeet and Oilseed Rape Callus Tissue," Mol. Gen. Genet., Vol. 212, pgs. 182-190, 1988.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	18.	Hudspeth et al. "Structure and Expression of the Maize Gene Encoding the Phosphoenolpyruvate Carboxylase Isozyme Involved in C <sub>4</sub> Photosynthesis," Molecular Biology, Vol. 12, pgs. 579-589, 1989.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	19.	Karp et al. "Simultaneous Extraction and Combined Bioluminescent Assay of NAD <sup>+</sup> and NADH," Analytical Biochemistry, Vol. 128, pgs. 175-180, 1983.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	20.	Keil et al. "Both Wound-Inducible and Tuber-Specific Expression are Mediated by the Promoter of a Single Member of the Potato Proteinase Inhibitor II Gene Family," The EMBO Journal, Vol. 8, No. 5, pgs. 1323-1330, 1989.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	21.	Keller et al. "Glycine-Rich Wall Proteins in Bean: Gene Structure and Association of the Protein with the Vascular System," The Embo Journal, Vol. 7, No. 12, pgs. 3625-3633, 1988.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	22.	Keller et al. "Specific Expression of a Novel Cell Wall Hydroxyproline-rich Glycoprotein Gene in Lateral Root Initiation," Genes and Development, Vol. 3, pgs. 1639-1646, 1989.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	23.	Maes et al. "Plant Tagnology," Trends in Plant Science, Vol. 4, No. 3, pgs. 90-96, 1999.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	24.	McCallum et al. "Targeting Induced Local Lesions IN Genomes (TILLING) for Plant Functional Genomics," Plant Physiology, Vol. 123, pgs. 439-442, 2000.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	25.	Peleman et al. "Structure and Expression Analyses of the S-adenosylmethionine Synthetase Gene Family in <i>Arabidopsis thaliana</i> ," pgs. 359-369, Elsevier Science Publishers B.V., 1989.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Sheet 4 of 4

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			YES	NO
	26.	Ying et al. "The Poly(ADP-Ribose) Glycohydrolase Inhibitor Gallotannin Blocks Oxidative Astrocyte Death," Neuropharmacology NeuroReport, Vol. 11, No. 7, pgs. 1385-1388, 2000.		

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